



VIRGIN ISLANDS PORT AUTHORITY

ST. THOMAS • ST. CROIX • ST. JOHN

UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

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VIPA UPDATES PUBLIC ON SECURITY AND PARKING AT ITS SEAPORTS IN RED HOOK AND CRUZ BAY FOR ST. JOHN FESTIVAL

The St. John Festival Village opens tonight in Cruz Bay. The island is celebrating its 65th Anniversary of carnival in “Love City.” The Virgin Islands Port Authority reminds the community of the following to ensure a safe and enjoyable festival season:

- **SECURITY** measures will be heightened at VIPA’s seaports in Red Hook, St. Thomas and Cruz Bay, St. John. Travelers should expect to encounter Port Police, TSA agents and other law enforcement officers conducting security screenings and searches. These measures were requested by the St. John Carnival Committee in the interest of providing a safe festival experience for the community and visitors.
- **FIREARMS** - Only law enforcement officers will be permitted to possess firearms on the ferries. A previous announcement issued by VIPA stated that the boat captains would collect all other licensed firearms. However, VIPA was later notified by the owners of the ferry companies that the ferry captains and personnel will **not** be allowing or storing any firearms on their vessels.
- **BERTHING** - Please adhere to the posted signs prohibiting vessel berthing at the Victor Sewer Marine Facility (the Creek) in Cruz Bay. Berthing space has been reserved for law enforcement vessels. Privately-owned vessels berthed in the reserved spaces will be removed.

- **PARKING** will be provided by VIPA at the temporary gravel lot adjacent to the Ivanna Eudora Kean High School for a flat rate of \$10. Shuttle service will be provided by East End Taxi at \$2 per trip. Parking will also be available on the lower level only at the new parking garage at the Urman V. Fredericks Marine Terminal for a flat rate of \$10. There are 75 regular parking spaces and 6 accessible spaces on the lower level. (The fees at the parking garage will revert to normal after parking equipment is installed.)

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The Virgin Islands Port Authority (VIPA) is an autonomous, self-sustaining government agency established in 1969 as the owner and manager of the United States Virgin Island's airports and seaports. VIPA owns and manages 14 seaports, two airports and surrounding properties. It is a critical arm of the USVI's economy that facilitates travel and commerce and fosters tourism and economic growth via its port activities. VIPA's mandate is to develop and maintain the ports of the USVI to accommodate the current and future demands of our users, and to provide safe port facilities.